

41

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Masanori CHIKUBA, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3723

Serial Number: 09/591,508

Examiner: **Robert ROSE**

Filed: **June 12, 2000**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3585

or: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GRINDING MAGNETIC MEMBER
AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING WASTE FLUID**

REQUEST FOR RETURN OF FORM PTO-1449

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 30, 2004

Sir:

Information Disclosure Statements were filed on **June 28, 2002, September 13, 2002, October 24, 2002, December 5, 2002, February 28, 2003, March 21, 2003 and February 27, 2004**. Copies of these Information Disclosure Statements are attached.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return copies of the Forms PTO-1449, which accompanied the Information Disclosure Statements, marked to indicate that the references listed therein had been considered by the Office.

The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned should he have any questions concerning this Request.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP


Mel R. Quintos

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 31,898

MRQ/lrj
Atty. Docket No. **000736**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Enclosures: Information Disclosure Statement filed on **6/28/02, 9/13/02, 10/24/02, 12/5/02, 2/28/03, 3/21/03 and 2/27/04**.
and Date Stamped Post Cards (copies)



CARD NO. 12933

U.S. Patent Application Docket No: 000736
Serial No: 09/591,508 Filed: 06/12/00
Patent Number: Issued:
Applicant(s): CHIKUBA, et al.

Papers filed herewith on: 06/28/02

Other: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT; W/PTO-1449 (4
REFS).



COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as indicated
in connection with the above-identified case.

MRQ/LRJ

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Masanori CHIKUBA, et al

Serial No.: 09/591,508

Filed: June 12, 2000



Group Art Unit: 3723

Examiner: Willie BERRY Jr.

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GRINDING MAGNETIC MEMBER
AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING WASTE FLUID**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND
STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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MAY 04 2004

June 28, 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these references is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry in the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement. Two copies of this authorization are attached.

Respectfully Submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



Mel R. Quintos
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 31,898

MRQ/lrj

Atty. Docket No. 000736
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449, 4 References

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No. 000736	Serial No. 09/591,508
	Applicant(s): Masanori CHIKUBA et al.	
	Filing Date: June 12, 2000	Group Art Unit: 3723

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA	5,938,935	Schimion	08/17/99	210	695
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____ AF 333472	06/11/98	Taiwan	No
_____ AG 363711	05/25/84	Taiwan	Partial
_____ AH			
_____ AI			
_____ AJ			

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MAY 04 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK	Notice of Rejection to the corresponding Taiwanese Patent Application No. 89111394 (and translation thereof).		
_____	AL	*Note: U.S. Patent No. 5,938,935 corresponds to Taiwanese Patent No. 333472)*		
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Examiner</td> <td>Date Considered</td> </tr> </table>			Examiner	Date Considered
Examiner	Date Considered			



CARD NO: 15709

U.S. Patent Application Docket No: 000736
Serial No: 09/591,508 Filed: 06/12/00
Patent Number: Issued:
Applicant(s): CHIKUBA, et al.

Papers filed herewith on: 09/13/02

Fees: \$ 180.00

Other: IDS; 1449; 3 references



COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as indicated
in connection with the above-identified case.

MRQ/CJP

3743.016

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **CHIKUBA, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3723

Serial No.: 09/591,508

Examiner: **BERRY, JR., Willie Wendel**

Filed: June 12, 2000



For. **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GRINDING MAGNETIC MEMBER AND
METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING WASTE FLUID**

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
AND STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(d)**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

MAY 04 2004

Attn: Group Director

September 13, 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee.

The undersigned hereby certifies

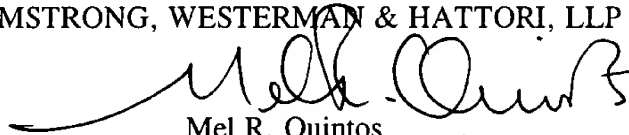
XX that no item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

A check is attached hereto which covers the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this Statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340. Two copies of this authorization are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



Mel R. Quintos
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 31,898

MRQ/cjp

Atty. Docket No. **000736**
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosure: \$180.00 fee

**INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE
CITATION
PTO-1449**

Atty. Docket No. 000736

Serial No. 09/591,508

Applicant(s): CHIKUBA, et al.

Filing Date: June 12, 2000

Group Art Unit: 3723

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
AA						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
AB 10-217119	8/18/98	Japan	Abstract
AC 10-175172	6/30/98	Japan	Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS

AD	Notification of Reason(s) for Refusal to the corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-181988 (and translation thereof (2 pages)) dated 8/20/02.
Examiner	Date Considered

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MAY 04 2004
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CARD NO: 17010

U.S. Patent Application Docket No: 000736
Serial No: 09/591,508 Filed: 06/12/00
Patent Number: Issued:
Applicant(s): CHIKUBA, et al.

Papers filed herewith on: 10/24/02

Fees: \$ 180.00

Other: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT; W/PTO-1449 (4
REFERENCES).



COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as indicated
in connection with the above-identified case.

MRQ/LRJ

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re the Application of: **CHIKUBA, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3723

Serial No.: 09/591,508

Examiner: **BERRY, Willie Wendel**

Filed: **June 12, 2000**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3585

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GRINDING MAGNETIC MEMBER
AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING WASTE FLUID**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

MAY 04 2004

October 24, 2002

Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action or a Notice of Allowance. A check is attached hereto which covers the \$ 180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340. Two copies of this authorization are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



Mel R. Quintos
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 31,898

MRQ/lrj

Atty. Docket No. 000736
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449 and references (4)
Check for \$ 180.00

OIPE
 APR 30 2004
 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No. 000736	Serial No. 09/591,508
	Applicant(s): CHIKUBA, et al.	
	Filing Date: June 12, 2000	Group Art Unit: 3723

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

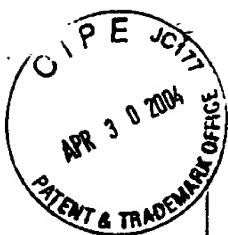
Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____ AF 10-277874	10/20/98	Japan	Abstract
_____ AG 10-296018	11/10/98	Japan	Abstract
_____ AH 11-276818	10/12/99	Japan	Abstract
_____ AI 11-276926	10/12/99	Japan	Abstract
_____ AJ			

OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK	<div style="text-align: right;"> RECEIVED MAY 04 2004 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700 </div>
_____	AL	
Examiner		Date Considered



CARD NO: 18363

U.S. Patent Application Docket No: 000736
Serial No: 09/591,508 Filed: 06/12/00
Patent Number: Issued:
Applicant(s): CHIKUBA, et al.

Papers filed herewith on: 12/05/02

Other: CORRECTION TO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
FILED 10/24/02.



COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as indicated
in connection with the above-identified case.

MRQ/LRJ

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **CHIKUBA, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3723

Serial No.: 09/591,508

Examiner: **BERRY, Willie Wendel**

Filed: **June 12, 2000**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3585

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GRINDING MAGNETIC MEMBER
AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING WASTE FLUID**

CORRECTION TO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
FILED OCTOBER 24, 2002

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 5, 2002

Sir:

The applicants respectfully note that the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on October 24, 2002 had inadvertently indicated that such October 24, 2002 IDS was filed "prior to issuance of either a final official action or a Notice of Allowance." However, a final Office Action had in fact been mailed out by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (U.S. PTO) on July 11, 2002. The applicants and their undersigned representative apologize for this inadvertence.

It is further respectfully noted that the requisite fee of \$180.00, which was paid in the filing of the October 24, 2002 IDS, would have been the government fee required had the IDS filed on October 24, 2002 not included the above-noted inadvertence.

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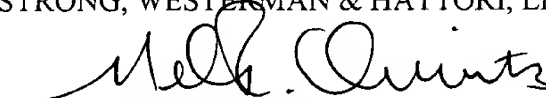
Other than the above-noted inadvertence, the October 24, 2002 IDS is an effective IDS, and its effect for filing copies of the references cited therein for the Examiner's full consideration remains.

The applicants continue to request that the information submitted in the October 24, 2002 IDS be determined as to any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See, 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the U.S. PTO's duty to consider and use any such information. It is again respectfully requested that the information, submitted in the October 24, 2002 IDS, be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the Form PTO-1449, attached to the October 24, 2002 IDS, be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340. Two copies of this authorization are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



Mel R. Quintos
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 31,898

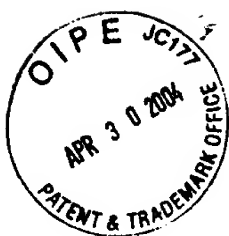
MRQ/lrj

Atty. Docket No. 000736
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



CARD NO: 20863

U.S. Patent Application Docket No: 000736
Serial No: 09/591,508 Filed: 06/12/00
Patent Number: Issued:
Applicant(s): CHIKUBA, et al.

Papers filed herewith on: 02/28/03

Other: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT W/PTO-1449 (6
REFERENCES).



COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as indicated
in connection with the above-identified case.

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MAY 04 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **CHIKUBA, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3723

Serial No.: 09/591,508

Examiner: **BERRY, Willie Wendel**

Filed: **June 12, 2000**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **3585**

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GRINDING MAGNETIC MEMBER
AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING WASTE FLUID**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 28, 2003

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



Mel R. Quintos
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 31,898

MRQ/lrj

Atty. Docket No. **000736**
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449 and references (6)

**INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE
CITATION
PTO-1449**

Atty. Docket No. 000736

Serial No. 09/591,508

Applicant(s): CHIKUBA, et al.

Filing Date: June 12, 2000

Group Art Unit: 3723

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____ AC 10-296018	11/10/98	Japan	Abstract
_____ AD 10-277874	10/20/98	Japan	Abstract
_____ AE 10-324887	08/12/98	Japan	Abstract
_____ AF 5-253822	10/05/93	Japan	Abstract
_____ AG			

OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AH	Decision of Refusal to corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-181988 (and translation thereof (2 pages)).
_____	AI	Publication for the corresponding Philippine Patent Application No. 1-2000-01515; IPO Gazette Vol. V No. 9 released on December 10, 2002.
Examiner		Date Considered

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CARD NO: 21645

U.S. Patent Application Docket No: 000736
Serial No: 09/591,508 Filed: 06/12/00
Patent Number: Issued:
Applicant(s): CHIKUBA, et al.

Papers filed herewith on: 03/21/03

Other: SUBSTITUTE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
W/PTO-1449



COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as indicated
in connection with the above-identified case.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **CHIKUBA, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3723

Serial No.: 09/591,508

Examiner: **BERRY, Willie Wendel**

Filed: **June 12, 2000**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3585

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GRINDING MAGNETIC MEMBER
AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING WASTE FLUID**

**SUBSTITUTE
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAY 04 2004

March 21, 2003

Sir:

Submitted herewith is a Substitute Information Disclosure Statement for the above-identified application, which is a substitute for the Information Disclosure Statement filed February 28, 2003. A copy of each of the references cited in the PTO-1449 was attached to the Information Disclosure Statement filed February 28, 2003.

This Substitute Information Disclosure is filed herewith in order to correct the Transmittal cover sheet filed with the February 28, 2003 Information Disclosure Statement.

This Substitute Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee.

The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the February 28, 2003 Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making

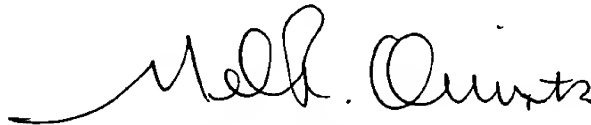
reasonable inquiry, no information contained in that statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of that statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

A check is attached hereto which covers the \$130.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this Statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



Mel R. Quintos
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 31,898

MRQ/lrj

Atty. Docket No. 000736
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Supplemental PTO-1449 and references (6)

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No. 000736	Serial No. 09/591,508
	Applicant(s): CHIKUBA, et al.	
	Filing Date: June 12, 2000	Group Art Unit: 3723



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____ AC 10-296018	11/10/98	Japan	Abstract
_____ AD 10-277874	10/20/98	Japan	Abstract
_____ AE 10-324887	08/12/98	Japan	Abstract
_____ AF 5-253822	10/05/93	Japan	Abstract
_____ AG			

OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AH	Decision of Refusal to corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-181988 (and translation thereof (2 pages)).
_____	AI	Publication for the corresponding Philippine Patent Application No. 1-2000-01515; IPO Gazette Vol. V No. 9 released on December 10, 2002.
Examiner		Date Considered

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER



CARD NO: 08051

U.S. Patent Application Docket No: 000736
Serial No: 09/591,508 Filed: 06/12/00
Patent Number: Issued:
Applicant(s): MASANORI CHIKUBA ET AL.

Papers filed herewith on: 02/27/04

Fees: \$ 180.00

Other: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT; W/PTO-1449 (3
REFS) & GERMAN OFFICE ACTION.



COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as indicated
in connection with the above-identified case.

MRQ/LRJ

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Masanori CHIKUBA, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3723

Serial No.: 09/591,508

Examiner: **Robert ROSE**

Filed: **June 12, 2000**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3585

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GRINDING MAGNETIC MEMBER
AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING WASTE FLUID**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAY 04 2004

February 27, 2004

Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action or a Notice of Allowance. A check is attached hereto which covers the \$ 180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

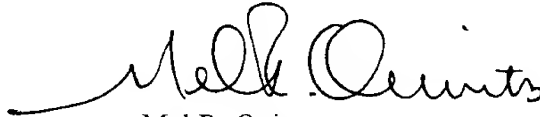
The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the

documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: PTO-1449
(3) References
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	Filing Date: June 12, 2000	Group Art Unit: 3723

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
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_____	AE					

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OTHER DOCUMENTS

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Examiner		Date Considered	